to the Act would cover the cases of colour in juices, frozen dessert and tap water, etc.; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Imported food items are required to meet the standards prescribed in the Rules made under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, for all the products listed therein.

Illegal trade of human organs

†1153. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, 'Manav Ang Vyapar Mein Bollywood Va Rajneeti Se Juri Hastian Bhi Lipta', which appeared in Dainik Jagaran, dated the 23rd January, 2003;

(b) whether this has also come to the notice that the said gang has been involved in the illegal trade of human organs since 1997; and

(c) if so, the number of persons who have fallen victim to this gang in the last three years alongwith details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Treatment of pensioners in private hospitals

1154. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government pensioners are allowed to obtain medical treatment from the private hospitals of their choice which are approved by the CGHS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that CGHS dispensaries do not issue medicines to such patients on the ground that they had received orders

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

from Government to issue medicines prescribed only by the RML Hospital or Government Hospitals and not be the approved Hospitals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) CGHS beneficiaries (both serving and pensioners) have the option of availing general/specialized treatment and diagnostic procedure at private hospitals/diagnostic centres recognised under CGHS in various CGHS covered cities after obtaining the recommendation regarding line of treatment from the specialist of CGHS/Govt. hospital/CMO In-charge of the dispensary and prior permission from the concerned office/Department in the case of serving employees and from the CMO In-charge of CGHS dispensaries in the case of pensioner beneficiaries.

(c) No, Sir. CGHS beneficiaries who take treatment in private hospitals recognised under CGHS with the prior permission of the Govt. are issued medicines for a period of one month from the date of discharge from the hospital based on the prescription of the said private hospital. However, patients of Cancer, Cardio thoracic surgeries Knee/Hip Joint Replacement and Kidney Transplant are granted permission for taking follow up treatment in the same recognised private hospital based on whose prescription the CGHS dispensary issues OPD medicines to the beneficiaries. The extension for follow-up is given three to six months at a time.

(d) In view of (c) above, the question does not arise.

Ayurvedic medicine for AIDS treatment

1155. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Government's plans to increase the level of awareness among general people about the deadly disease AIDS; and

(b) whether Government are aware of an Ayurvedic medicine, which enhances the immune system in human body to the extent that the AIDS virus becomes harmless in due course and the patient lives a normal life?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) In the Phase II of the National AIDS